

A NEW *ROSTROZETES* MITE FROM BRITISH GUIANA
(ACARI: ORIBATEI: HAPLOZETIDAE)

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In 1965 Dr. Ludwig Beck published his excellent paper on the genus *Rostrozetes* in which he reviewed the known forms and described several new species from South America. A new species of this interesting genus was found in a collection of mites from British Guiana taken by Dr. Donald De Leon. A description of this new South American species follows:

***Rostrozetes dimorphochaites*, n. sp.**

(Figs. 1, 2, 3)

Diagnosis: Lamellar hairs serrate; a sclerotized ridge mediad to the pteromorphs; dorsal hysterosomal setae of two types, six very large, medial, setose setae and seven pairs of fine, simple, marginal setae; setae p_2 located on a tubercule.

Description: Propodosoma roughly triangular in outline; rostrum blunt, rounded medially with lateral points; rostral hairs simple, inserted in depression formed by rostral projection; lamellar hairs serrate, longer than rostral hairs, located in a small depression on sides of propodosoma, extended to tip of rostrum; a faint, sclerotized line crossing rostrum at level of lamellar hairs; lamellae located along sides of propodosoma; interlamellar hairs weak, simple, with small insertions, located anterior to notch in undulated dorsosejugal suture; pseudostigmata cup-shaped, located at lateral margin of propodosoma near dorsosejugal suture the rim raised slightly above body; sensillus with long, smooth petiole and setose head which appears somewhat serrate from the side.

Hysterosoma longer than wide; pteromorphs large, curved downward, extending forward to pseudostigmata; a sclerotized ridge mediad of pteromorphs; dorsal setae of two types: medial six very large setose, as shown in Figure 3; seven pairs of simple, marginal setae; setae p_2 inserted on a tubercule; entire dorsum heavily pitted as shown in Figure 1.

Camerostome egg-shaped; ventral sclerotizations and setae as shown in Figure 2; genital opening longer than wide with slightly flattened sides, each cover with five visible, simple setae; anal aperture nearly as long as wide with flattened sides, each anal cover with two setae; fissure *iad* located near anal opening above level of *an*₂; entire ventral surface heavily pitted as shown in Figure 2.

Legs stout, monodactylus.

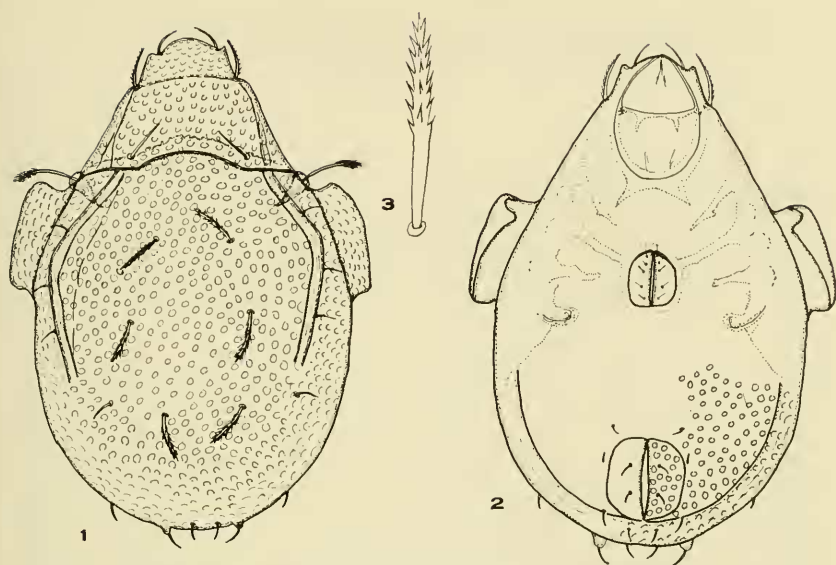
Size: Length 270 μ ; width, 180 μ .

Type Locality: A single specimen was collected from *Simaba cedron* near the 24 mile Post, Bartica-Potaro Road, British Guiana on 27 October 1963 by Donald De Leon (Coll. No. 2570).

Discussion: *Rostrozetes dimorphochaites* n. sp. can be separated

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Rostrozetes dimorphochaites, n. sp. Fig. 1, Dorsal view, legs omitted; fig. 2, Ventral view, legs omitted; fig. 3, Enlarged medial seta.

from all known species of this genus by the serrate lamellar hairs, the distinct, sclerotized ridge mediat to the pteromorphae, the three pairs of large, setose setae on the hysterosoma, and the presence of the tubercles on the posterior end of the hysterosoma. The name *dimorphochaites* refers to the two distinct types of setae on the dorsum.

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